

REMARKS

This paper is in response to the Official Action mailed November 1, 2005. In this response, claims 9 and 16 have been amended. Claims 5, 7, 15 and 24 were canceled in previous papers. Claims 2-4, 6, 8-14 and 16-23 are now presented for the Examiner's consideration in view of the following remarks:

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicants note that an additional Information Disclosure Statement was filed in the present case on November 8, 2005, soon after the subject Official Action was mailed. Applicants request that the references cited in that IDS be considered in the next Official Action.

The Present Application

The present application is directed to a technique for providing quality of service (QoS) guarantees in a wireless local area network (WLAN). More specifically, the application relates to providing a virtual stream in a basic service set in a WLAN. The technique is useful in providing an end-to-end QoS mechanism for a WLAN that integrates the physical and link layers of a WLAN as specified in IEEE P802.11/1999 with network and higher layers (*see* present specification at p. 7, lines 8-16).

The independent claims of the present application have been amended to claim that the point coordinator (PC) station or the station sourcing the QoS session announces multiple transmission opportunities in a single frame. Applicant asserts that the amendments are fully supported by the specification, at least at p. 39, lines 11-19.

The announcement of multiple transmission opportunities in a single frame is included in a multipoll scheme that is part of the channel access mechanism of the present invention. That technique is in contrast to the simple poll scheme of the prior art, which announces one transmission opportunity in one frame, as provided by IEEE P802.11/1999.

In the Official Action dated June 29, 2004, the Examiner has rejected claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite, claims 2-4, 6, 8-14 and 16-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,631,122 to Arunachalam et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,934,752 to Gubbi, claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over Applicants' Admitted Prior Art (AAPA) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,542,490 to Abmadvand et al. in view of Gubbi, and claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over the AAPA in view of Gubbi.

Discussion

Indefiniteness Rejection of Claim 16

Claim 16 has been amended to recite the first occurrence of "a VSID" as "the VSID." Applicants submit that the rejection based on lack of antecedent basis made by the Examiner is thereby overcome.

Section 103 Rejections of the Claims

The independent claims have been amended to require that either the PC station (claim 9) or the station sourcing the QoS session (claim 16) announces multiple transmission opportunities in a single frame.

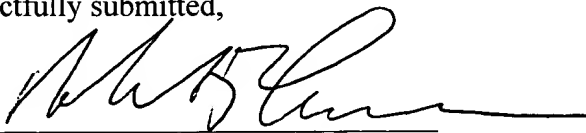
Applicants submit that nowhere in the cited art is it taught to announce multiple transmission opportunities in a single frame, and for at least that reason, that the section 103 rejections made by the Examiner are overcome.

Conclusion

Applicants therefore assert that none of the claims presented in the case are anticipated by or obvious over the relevant art. Applicants submit that the claims in the case are in condition for allowance, and earnestly request that the Examiner issue a timely Notice of Allowance.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the present case, the Examiner should not hesitate to contact the undersigned at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

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